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Summary record of the 28th meeting
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Chairman: Mr. Priputen (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Slovakia)

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In the absence of Mr. Belinga-Eboutou (Cameroon), Mr. Priputen (Slovakia), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Agenda item 105: Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (*continued*) (A/C.3/58/L.9/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/C.3/58/L.9/Rev.1)

1. **Mr. Maqueira** (Chile), introducing the draft resolution, which had no programme budget implications, said that the following countries had joined the sponsors: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, the Congo, Croatia, Djibouti, Eritrea, the Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, the Republic of Moldova, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Sudan, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, and Viet Nam.

2. *Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.9/Rev.1 was adopted.*

Agenda item 106: Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (*continued*) (A/C.3/58/L.8)

Draft resolution on implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century (A/C.3/58/L.8)

3. **Ms. Osias-Magpile** (Philippines) introducing the draft resolution, which had no programme budget implications, said that the final version, incorporating all revisions and amendments, had been circulated to the Committee. The following countries had joined the sponsors: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, the Federated States of Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

4. *Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.8, as orally revised, was adopted.*

Agenda item 108: Crime prevention and criminal justice (*continued*) (A/C.3/58/L.13 and L.16)

Draft resolution on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/C.3/58/L.13)

5. **The Chairman** drew the attention of the Committee to a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/58/L.16.

6. **Mr. Nyamulinda** (Rwanda) introduced the draft resolution.

7. **Mr. Siv** (United States), **Ms. Fusano** (Japan), **Ms. Maillé** (Canada), speaking also on behalf of Australia, and **Ms. Borzi Cornacchia** (Italy), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that, while supporting the work of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, should there be an increase in core professional staff or in the salary scale of staff, the resulting costs should be met by Member States and should not be charged to the regular budget of the

United Nations. They trusted that there would be no programme budget implications in the future.

8. *Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13 was adopted.*

Agenda item 110: Advancement of women (*continued*) (A/C.3/58/L.19)

Draft resolution on improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (A/C.3/58/L.19)

9. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.19 contained no programme budget implications. The following countries had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution: Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

10. **Mr. De Barros** (Secretary of the Committee) read out a number of revisions to the draft resolution. The third preambular paragraph should end after the words "paragraph 39, 40 and 41"; in the sixth preambular paragraph, the words "efforts of the" should be inserted before "Office of the Programme Planning" and the words "in achieving or maintaining" should replace "which have achieved or continue to maintain". The seventh and ninth preambular paragraphs should be replaced with the following words: "Expressing particular concern that for the second consecutive year there was a slowing of progress towards achieving the target of 50/50 gender balance and that between 1998 and 2003 there has been almost no progress in the rate of representation of women in appointments of one year or more at the professional and higher levels". The eighth preambular paragraph should be deleted, in the tenth preambular paragraph, the word "female" should be inserted before "special representative", and the words "who is a women" should be deleted; and the eleventh preambular paragraph should be deleted.

11. In paragraph 2, the word "very" should be inserted before "near future"; in paragraph 4, the word "professional" should be inserted before "staff" in the second and third lines, the words "and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system" should be inserted after "the Secretary-General", and the word "their" should replace the word "his" after the word "intensify". In paragraph 5 (g), the words "of a project" should be inserted before "by the Office of the Under-Secretary-General" and deleted in the second line; and in paragraph 5 (h), the words "research-based" should be inserted before "analysis". In paragraph 7, the phrase "in the context of his commitment to set concrete targets for the appointment of women as his special representatives and special envoys in order to reach the target of 50/50 gender balance by 2015" should be moved and inserted after the words "the Secretary-General" in the first line.

12. **Ms. Maillé** (Canada), speaking also on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and other sponsors, made further oral revisions to draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.19. The fifth preambular paragraph should read: "Taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, from countries with economies in transition, and from unrepresented or largely under-represented Member States". Paragraph 3, after the words "Charter of the United Nations" should read: "and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, from countries with economies in transition, and from unrepresented or largely underrepresented Member States". Paragraph 6 (i) should read "To continue to work to further strengthen the policy against harassment by, inter alia, ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field".

13. The eleventh preambular paragraph should be replaced by the following text: "Welcoming the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in issuing guidance for field missions on the procedures to be followed for handling disciplinary issues and allegations of serious misconduct involving mission personnel and encouraged by the agreement in the Staff-Management Coordination Committee that the

procedure for dealing with all forms of sexual harassment be reviewed and incorporated within a new administrative instruction covering all forms of harassment". Lastly, she informed the Committee that Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Fiji, Greece, Guyana, India, Mongolia, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay, Samoa, Slovakia, the Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Viet Nam had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

14. **The Chairman** said that the following countries had also joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.19: Algeria, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Côte d'Ivoire, Estonia, Georgia, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Uganda.

15. *Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.19, as orally revised, was adopted.*

Draft resolution on the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
(A/C.3/58/L.20)

16. **The Chairman** said that the following delegations had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.20: Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Estonia, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Suriname, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Uganda, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

17. **Mr. De Barros** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the General Assembly would encourage all relevant entities within the United Nations system, Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in particular, to strengthen assistance to States parties in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. He informed the Committee that draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.20 contained no programme budget implications and that consideration by the Committee of paragraph 18 of the draft resolution was in contravention of paragraph 2 of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248.

18. **Ms. Gunnarsdóttir** (Iceland) made the following oral revision to draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.20: at the beginning of the twelfth preambular paragraph, the words "Welcoming further" should be replaced by "Recalling". She also informed the Committee that Bhutan, Bolivia, Georgia, Grenada, Guyana, Liberia, Malta, Mauritius, Mongolia, the Republic of Moldova and Togo had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

19. **The Chairman** said that the following countries had also joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.20: Côte d'Ivoire, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Niger, Panama and Rwanda.

20. **Mr. Siv** (United States), speaking in explanation of position, said that his Government was committed to ensuring that the promotion of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women was fully integrated into American foreign policy and supported the goal of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to eradicate discrimination against women across the globe. His Government's actions in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Middle East and elsewhere underscored that commitment. His delegation, however, was concerned at the wording of paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.20, which "urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so" rather than "to consider doing so". Accordingly, his delegation disassociated itself from the consensus on the draft resolution.

21. *Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.20, as orally revised, was adopted.*

22. **Ms. Ng Yuin-Lyn** (Singapore), speaking in explanation of position after the adoption of the draft resolution, said her delegation objected to the words in paragraph 8, urging States parties to the Convention on All Forms of Discrimination against Women "to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them". She pointed out that the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties prohibited only reservations that were incompatible with the object and purpose of a given convention and expressed concern at the trend towards discouraging reservations that were permissible under the Vienna Convention.

Agenda item 114: Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (*continued*) (A/C.3/58/L.27)

Draft resolution on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (A/C.3/58/L.27)

23. **The Chairman** said that Argentina, Armenia Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Gabon, El Salvador, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Timor-Leste had joined in sponsoring draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.27 and informed the Committee that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

24. **Mr. Hauström** (Finland) said that Dominica had also joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.27.

25. *Draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.27, as orally revised, was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.